

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Chuan Gao on 06/18/2009.

The amendment is as follows:

Claim 23. An analytical assembly comprising:

a detection assembly comprising a plurality of detection devices; and

a microdevice according to claim 1 or claim 13 ~~comprising a plurality of wall members and a plurality of fluid channels, wherein each of the fluid channels is defined by adjacent wall members in the plurality of wall members.~~

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-10, 12-16 and 23-26 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest a microfluidic device with wall members defining an opening, the device containing a slide member, adapted to slide through the

Art Unit: 1797

opening, such features found in independent claim 1; a microfluidic device with channels, walls of which define an opening at opposed beveled structures, said channels communicating with adjacent fluid channels, found in independent claim 13, and an analytical assembly comprising a detection assembly and a microfluidic device with the novel features of either claim 1 or claim 13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TIMOTHY G. KINGAN whose telephone number is (571)270-3720. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., E.S.T..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill Warden can be reached on 571 272-1267. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1797

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TGK

/Jill Warden/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1797